

Bowness-on-Solway Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held online via Zoom on Wednesday 15th July 2020 at 7:00pm.

Present:

Councillors: Carruthers (Chair), Birkett, Coates, Evans, Graham, Hinks, Harrington, Hutton, Martin and Wills.

County Cllr: Markley

Borough Cllr: Hodgson

Public attendance: One

Clerk: M Abbs

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

Cllr Reay had sent his apologies to the clerk

Cllr Wills had previously declared an interest in item 7.2.4.

Cllr Birkett declared an interest in item 7.4.1

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

The clerk to report any requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting.)

Members may, however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote, he/she is advised to contact the clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

2 Minutes (previously circulated)

To approve the draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th March 2020.- **approved.**

3 To approve suspension of agenda standing orders for this meeting only. – **approved.**

Cllr Carruthers invited the member of the public to speak.

Due to the recent popularity of the area bad parking was causing difficulties to buses using the bus turning circle at the West end of the village. The Parishioner believed that more signage was required. The clerk pointed out that the land was owned by the RSPB. Cllrs would monitor the situation and the clerk was asked to include the item on the next agenda.



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4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 H&H Land & Estates – BPS Claim Form submission conformation.

The clerk confirmed that confirmation had been received. -**noted**.

4.2 Letter from Parishioner concerning Drumburgh Marsh.

Cllr Hinks updated Cllrs on the placement of concrete blocks to combat social disorder at the West End of the Marsh, causing local controversy. Cllr Carruthers had been informed that a planning officer from Allerdale had visited the site. Cllr Hutton felt that an increased Police presence would help and the clerk confirmed that the Police had been alerted to the situation. **Noted without further action.**

5 New business

5.1 To consider the re-appointment of PL Gauntlett Accounts Ltd to handle PAYE for the Council. – **approved.**

5.2 To consider the re-appointment of PL Gauntlett Accounts Ltd to handle the Internal Audit for the Council. – **approved.**

5.3 Parish Council response to COVID – 19.

Cllr Hinks provided an update on the help provided to the Community by the ‘Solway Samaritans’ group.

Cllr Birkett said he had also received appreciative comments about the work of the Solway Hub – based in Bowness.

Noted without action.

Cllr Markley joined the meeting.

6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 To **approve** annual return: governance statement. - **approved.**

6.1.2 To **approve accounts** 31st March 2020

print-out of Receipts & payments book; 3-year comparative summary;

bank reconciliation & explanation of variance;

bank statements to 31st March 2020

- **approved.**

6.1.3 To **approve** annual return: accounting statements - **approved.**

6.1.4 To **note** report of internal auditor. - **approved.**

6.1.5 To **approve** accounts to June 30th (available at meeting). - **approved.**

6.1.6 To **note** Information Commissioner: confirmation of registration renewal to 6/4/21. **noted.**

6.1.7 To **note** VAT return: refund to be submitted for 2019/2020 **£1868.26** - **noted.**

6.1.8 To **note** Allerdale BC: precept: instalment 1 - **£9392** - **noted.**

6.1.9 To **note** United Utilities: Wayleave payments **£40.89** - **noted**

6.1.10 To **note** via CALC – confirmation of S.137 spending limit of £8.32 per elector for 2020/21. – **noted.**

6.2 **Payments: to approve** the following payments:

6.2.1- Clerk's salary **£1430** * - **approved.**

6.2.2 Clerk's Expenses: post etc. £15.59, Telephone + broadband £25.48, travel 9.3 miles@36p= £9.12 **Total £50.19** * - **approved.**

6.2.3 - Information Commissioner: by direct debit and confirmation of renewal of registration **£35.00** * - **approved.**

6.2.4 - BHIB Insurance: renewal premium **£309.01** * - **approved.**

6.2.5 - A N Other: chairman's allowance **£30.00** - **approved.**

6.2.6 – PL Gauntlett: internal audit fee **£50.00** * - **approved.**

6.2.7 - P L Gauntlett: share of invoice (£100) for PAYE services **£34.00** * - **approved.**

6.2.8 - CALC: subscription renewal 2020/21 – **£231.27** - **approved.**

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6.2.9 H&H Land and Estates Ltd – professional services (VAT £35.00) **£210.00**

6.2.10 Thorpe Trees – tree purchase (VAT £38.00) **£228.00** * - approved.

6.2.11 CALC – Zoom Licence (Vat £15.68) **£94.08** * - approved.

* denotes payment previously authorised or authorised under Emergency COVID powers by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and clerk.

7 Planning

7.1 Applications outstanding with Allerdale BC / Cumbria CC

None – noted.

7.2 Applications dealt with under standing order

7.2.1 – HOU/2020/0053 Removal of and replacement of existing bay window with garage etc. Romar, Greenspot, Kirkbride

(Mr B Foster)

7.2.2 – CAT/2020/0013 Pollarding of two sycamore trees, Pear Tree Farm, Bowness on Solway.

(Mrs Morag Lomax)

7.2.3 – CAT/2020/0012 Pollarding of 1 lime tree, Sea Bank, Bowness.

(Mrs McGuinness)

7.2.4 - HRN-2020/0003 Hedgerow Removal Notice for 135m to be removed. Bowness Hall, Bowness

(Mr J Wills)

7.2.5 – HOU/2020/0067 2 storey side and rear extension, 16 Fell View, Anthorn.

(Mr D Hawes)

7.2.6 – HOU/2020/0080 Extension to form proposed yoga/fitness room, Solway House, Cardurnock, Kirkbride. (Mr R. Nugent)

The clerk confirmed that there had been no objections to any of the above. – **noted**.

7.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC / Cumbria CC

7.3.1 – FUL/2020/0036 To construct a timber bird hide on the edge of Drumburgh Moss, Drumburgh. (Mr K Scott, Cumbria Wildlife Trust.) – approval granted.

7.3.2 – HOU/2020/0053 Removal of and replacement of existing bay window with garage etc. Romar, Greenspot, Kirkbride (Mr B Foster) – approval granted.

7.3.3 – HOU/2020/0067 2 storey side and rear extension, 16 Fell View, Anthorn.

(Mr D Hawes) – approval granted.

7.3.4 – HOU/2020/0080 Extension to form proposed yoga/fitness room, Solway House, Cardurnock, Kirkbride. (Mr R. Nugent) – approval granted.

7.3.5 – FUL/2020/0036 To construct a timber bird hide on the edge of Drumburgh Moss, Drumburgh. (Mr K Scott, Cumbria Wildlife Trust.) – approval granted.

7.3.6 - FUL/2020/0021 Part change of use to permit the hire of 4 motorhomes for a temporary period of 3 years, Bowness House Farm, Bowness on Solway. (Hunter Contracts North East Ltd). – approval granted.

7.3.7 – CAT/2020/0009 Cut off overhanging branches of 1 silver birch and 1 mountain ash, The Nook, Bowness on Solway. (Ms Diane Ellis-Jones) – approval granted.

The above were **noted**.

7.4 Applications for discussion by this meeting

7.4.1 – VAR/2020/0011 Variation of Condition 2 on approved planning application FUL/2019/0012 extend current consent from 25th July 2020 to 25 July 2022. (Hunter Contracts North East Ltd).

Following discussion, Cllrs **agreed** to the extension and authorised the clerk to inform the authority.

Cllr Martin requested that her objection was minuted.

Cllr Hodgson joined the meeting.

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8 Documents received for comment.

8.1 Natural England - Restoration Brief for Bowness Common SSSI Units 21 and 24, part of the South Solway Mosses SAC, North West Cumbria.

(Mr Douglas Little, Marylands Farm, Bowness on Solway. Cumbria. CA7 5AG)

Following discussion Cllrs gave their **general approval** to the scheme but were concerned about possible damage/ loss to the heronry. The clerk was instructed to notify Natural England.

Cllr Martin left the meeting.

Borough Cllr Hodgson – was invited to give his report at this point.

He commented on the situation covered in item 4.2. He was aware that a meeting between Allerdale BC and the landowner would be held. The Police presence in the area was discussed and Cllr Markley commented on shoreline management.

Cllr Markley gave his report.

He was pleased that the installation of the cattle grids had finally taken place.

The work of the County Council to date during the current Covid – 19 pandemic was outlined.

Both were thanked for their contributions.

9 Meetings

9.1 Date of next meeting: This date and others until May 2021 dependent upon the COVID19 situation.

Provisional dates may be set. Meetings will be publicised to the public and notified to Councillors.

The possibility of holding a meeting on the 19th of August was discussed and the clerk said he would discuss this with the Chairman and Vice Chairman and advise Cllrs.

The Chairman was having internet connection difficulties at this point and the Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40p.m.

Martin Little
19/8/2020